AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph [0014] on page 4, with the following amended paragraph:

[0014] Indeed, surprisingly, the intermetallic phases present during charge and discharge of lithium a very particular and interesting behavior: the ~~stoechiometry~~ stoichiometry of $MyPn_4$ part does not vary upon charge and discharge and, during an electrochemical cycle, the addition of lithium does not change substantially the structure of the network of the transition metal pnictide phase, there is more specifically a volume variation of less than 1%. This result gives the opportunity to provide lithium rechargeable batteries comprising such electrodes with improved mechanical properties.

Please replace the paragraph [0017] on page 5, with the following amended paragraph:

[0017] The specific capacity of the electrode according to the invention ranges more particularly from 200 to 1000 mAh/g vis-à-vis lithium, after at least one charge/discharge cycle. The specific capacity ranges preferably from 500 to 1000 mAh/g and most preferably is at least 600 mAh/g. Moreover, the electrode according to the invention does not ~~loose~~ lose considerable capacity upon cycling, contrary to known lithium alloys.

Please replace the paragraph [0021] on page 5, with the following amended paragraph:

[0015] The molar ratio ~~lithium~~ (lithium (ii)/pnictogene element ~~(i)]~~ (i))is comprised between 2/4 and 11/4 in said blend; and the molar ratio ~~[transition~~ (transition metal (iii)/pnictogene element ~~(i)]~~ (i))between 0.2/4 and 2.2/4 in said blend.

Please replace the paragraph [0044] on page 10-11, with the following amended paragraph:

[0044] All the characterized phases, prepared directly at high temperature, display a variable occupation of the tetrahedral n^{Td} and octahedral n^{Oh} sites. The cationic filling leads to a ~~stoechiometric~~ stoichiometric range in Li_xVAs_4 ($a(Li_{4.5}V_{1.2}As_4)=6.167Å$, $a(Li_7VAs_4)=6.162Å$, $a(Li_9VAs_4)=6.175$ (Å) with no cell parameter modification. The introduction of transition metal with an oxidation state higher than +1 leads to cationic vacancies. Thus these deficient phases prone to accept additional lithium without structural modification (topotactic process). The *cfc* lattice of the pnictogen can accept up to 12 metal cations (Li/M) to fill the tetrahedral ($n^{Td}=8$) and octahedral ($n^{Oh}=4$) sites. Starting from the A or B structures the insertion of additional lithium occurs either at the 4b or 4c/4d sites. The occupation strongly modifies the environment of As and M atoms. Lithium insertion can be carried chemically or ~~electrochemicaly~~ electrochemically.